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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,524	08/07/2001	Chun Wang	AT1.0001670	1770

34456 7590 11/27/2006

LARSON NEWMAN ABEL POLANSKY & WHITE, LLP
5914 WEST COURTYARD DRIVE
SUITE 200
AUSTIN, TX 78730

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HAU H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2628

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/923,524	Applicant(s) WANG ET AL.	
	Examiner Hau H. Nguyen	Art Unit 2628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 1-34, 42 and 43 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 35-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2628

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn. As indicated below, claims 1-34, 42 and 43 are allowed, claims 35-41 are still pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-34, 42 and 43 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowable subject matter:

The prior art taken singly or in combination fails to teach or suggest all the features of the claimed invention. Specifically, the cited prior art fails to teach each data request including a tag to identify a corresponding client.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 35-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Artieri (U.S. Patent No. 6,104,751).

Art Unit: 2628

Referring to claim 35, as shown in Fig. 3, Artieri teaches an MPEG decoder comprising a memory bus MBUS, couples the picture memory 15 to the compressed data input bus CDin, to the input of the variable length decoder (VLD) 10, to the input of the half-pixel filter 14, and to the input of a display controller 18. Exchanges on the memory bus MBUS are controlled by a memory controller (MCU) 24 that serves to carry out, upon request of the FIFOs, transfer operations between these FIFOs and the picture memory. To achieve this purpose, the memory controller 24 receives a plurality of requests RQ and provides corresponding acknowledgements ACK (col. 6, lines 34-51). As shown in Fig. 8, Artieri teaches four MPEG decoders connected so as to process the four slices of the high definition picture. The input of each MPEG decoder is connected to the compressed data bus CDin, and each decoder operates with a respective picture memory (col. 20, lines 14-25). Also, between each decoder, there is provided an exchange system allowing a decoder to provide the data of its slice to its memory and to provide the same data to the memories of the adjacent decoders through an exchange bus XBUS (col. 20, lines 59-67, and col. 21, lines 1-14).

The first video decoder of claim 35 as interpreted by the examiner is one that is made up by components 10-14, 16, 18, 20-22, and 26 of Fig. 3. The routing of the request to the memory controller 24 is carried out via the MBUS. Similar interpretation is made on the second video decoder, and the routing of the request to the second memory controller with reference to Fig. 8.

As per claim 36, as cited above with reference to Fig. 8, Artieri teaches providing the first client request to a first memory, and the second client request to a second memory.

Art Unit: 2628

In regard to claim 37, Artieri teaches the memory controller to read the blocks in the first buffer memory and to write them in the picture memory at addresses corresponding to the specific slice, and to read the blocks in the second buffer memory and to write them at addresses corresponding to a margin (Fig. 9, col. 5, lines 53-65).

In regard to claims 38 and 41, Artieri teaches the system includes a plurality of processing elements using decoding parameters, and a memory bus controlled by a memory controller to exchange data between the processing elements at rates adapted to the processing rates of these elements, and to store in a picture memory data to be processed or re-used (col. 3, lines 40-49).

As per claim 39, as cited above, Artieri teaches the memory controllers are scalable (Fig. 8).

As per claim 40, as also cited above, Artieri teaches the first and second video decoders are MPEG decoder, and the first and second client requests are HDTV streams (col. 6, lines 3-5).

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hau H. Nguyen whose telephone number is: 571-272-7787. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI from 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on (571) 272-7794.

Art Unit: 2628

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

H. Nguyen

11/22/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. M. Tung', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

KEE M. TUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER